

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRN, TGEN,R, US
SUBJECT: US-USSR TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT: RENEWAL
(05.00)

REF: (A) MOSCOW 11585, (B) STATE 139353

1. SCICOUNS JUNE 5 RECOUNTED POINTS PARA 3 REFTEL A AS
"OFFICIAL EXPLANATION" OF TWO YEAR RENEWAL PROPOSAL,
STRESSING THAT DECISION WAS GIVEN THOROUGH CONSIDERATION
BY USG. AYKAZYAN EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT, NOTING THAT
HE WOULD HAVE TO CONFER WITH MFA AND OTHER INTERESTED
MINISTRIES, AND THAT HE EXPECTED "SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES."

2. AYKAZYAN REQUESTED SCICOUNS TO RESTATE IN WRITING
POINTS MADE ORALLY, WHICH HE CLAIMED WAS NECESSARY FOR
FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF RENEWAL PROPOSALS BY SOVIET
AUTHORITIES. UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE, SCICOUNS
PLANS TO TRANSMIT TO AYKAZYAN FOLLOWING NOTE:

DEAR EDWARD:

THIS WILL RESPOND TO YOUR REQUEST FOR A FURTHER CLARIFI-
CATION OF THE U.S. PROPOSAL FOR A TWO YEAR EXTENSION OF
THE US-USSR AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION IN TRANSPORTATION.
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AS MR. RAMUNDO AND I HAD INDICATED TO YOU IN OUR MEETING
ON MAY 23, THE US SIDE HAS NOT BEEN TOTALLY SATISFIED
WITH THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED DURING THE FIRST FIVE YEAR
TERM OF THIS AGREEMENT. THE U.S. SIDE FELT OBLIGED, FOR
EXAMPLE, TO TERMINATE COOPERATION IN THE MARINE TRANSPORT
SECTION OF THE AGREEMENT DUE TO THE FAILURE OF YOUR SIDE
TO PERMIT ACCESS TO FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT THAT WOULD

HAVE PROVIDED A REASONABLE EQUIVALENCY OF BENEFITS. THIS
ISSUE HAS RAISED SOME QUESTION AS TO THE DESIRE OR THE
ABILITY, OF THE SCST TO PROVIDE THE LEADERSHIP AND
COORDINATION ON THE SOVIET SIDE NECESSARY FOR THE
ACHIEVEMENT OF A TRULY BALANCED AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL
PROGRAM OF COOPERATION IN TRANSPORTATION.
AFTER THOROUGH CONSIDERATION, THE USG HAS DECIDED THAT A
TWO YEAR RENEWAL OF THIS AGREEMENT IS THE BEST OPTION.
WE CONSIDER THAT THE TWO YEAR TERM WILL PUT BOTH SIDES
ON NOTICE THAT FURTHER EFFORT IS REQUIRED TO ATTAIN A
MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY PROGRAM OF COOPERATION. WE BELIEVE
THE NEEDED CHANGES CAN BE EFFECTED WITHIN THIS PERIOD.

I HOPE THE ABOVE WILL ASSIST YOU IN YOUR REVIEW OF THE
U.S. RENEWAL PROPOSAL, AND WOULD APPRECIATE LEARNING
THE RESPONSE OF THE SOVIET SIDE TO THIS PROPOSAL AT YOUR
EARLIEST CONVENIENCE.

SINCERELY,

3. EMBASSY PLANS TO TRANSMIT LETTER TO AYKAZYAN COB
JUNE 8. PLEASE ADVISE. MATLOCK

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